

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application, based on the amendments to the pending claims and the following remarks, are respectfully requested. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification. No new matter has been added as a consequence of these amendments.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0065328 ("Dederen"). For at least the following reasons, the claims are believed to be patentable over the cited references.

Applicant notes that the emulsification systems discussed in Dederen include 0.02-1.5 wt.% of an alkoxylate emulsifier and 0.02-0.25 wt.% of a polysaccharide stabilizer. In contrast, the surfactant composition of the pending claims, comprises, *inter alia*, 1 to 10 wt.% of at least one polyoxyalkylene branched non-ionic surfactant; and 1 to 10 wt.% of at least one surfactant capable of forming liquid crystals in water. Accordingly, it is submitted that the pending claims are patentable over Dederen.

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicant at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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